

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LENING 00706 150744Z
ACTION SS-25

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-----150800Z 073643 /13
R 141223Z JUN 77
FM AMCONSUL LENINGRAD
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3222
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L L E N I N G R A D 0 7 0 6

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-4
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, SREF, CVIS, OGEN, CSCE, UR
SUBJ: JEWISH REFUSENIK SCENE

REF: A. LENINGRAD 460, B. LENINGRAD 413

1. SUMMARY: LENINGRAD OVIR'S ATTENTION TO JEWISH EMIGRATION PROBLEM AGAIN INTENSIFIED IN MAY AND JUNE. SINCE LAST REPORT (REF A) EIGHT REFUSENIK HEADS OF FAMILIES OR INDIVIDUALS HAVE BEEN GIVEN EXIT PERMISSION, BUT BALANCE WAS MAINTAINED BY ISSUEANCE OF SEVEN FIRST-TIME REFUSALS OF PETITIONS FOR PERMISSION TO EMIGRATE. BELGRADE CSCE MEETING DISCOUNTED AS DECISIVE FACTOR IN RECENT CASES. END SUMMARY.

2. IN LATE APRIL POLINA SORETS AND ARKADIY GELLER AND FAMILY WERE GIVEN EXIT PERMISSION, AND IN MAY, YURIY ZABARA AND VALDIMIR NEYMAN AND THEIR FAMILIES WERE GIVEN EXIT PERMISSION. IN EARLY JUNE, SIMA OSTROVSKIY, ALEXANDER PENSENSEN, AND LEONID GOLDIN WERE GRANTED PERMISSION TO EMIGRATE ALONG WITH THEIR FAMILIES, AND DISSIDENT-REFUSENIK ILYA LEVIN WAS ALSO TOLD HE WILL BE ALLOWED TO DEPART.

3. IN CONTRAST TO APRIL WHEN LENINGRAD OVIR ISSUED
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NO REFUSALS OF WOULD-BE EMIGRANTS' PEITIONS FOR EXIT VISAS, FIVE SUCH REFUSALS WERE ISSUED IN MAY TO VALENTINA KHAIT, MIRA BELKINA, FNU GUTMAN, NATALIYA GURKOVA, AND EDUARD USOSKIN. VALERIY KOZAK AND FNU LITVIN WERE REFUSED PERMISSION TO EMIGRATE DURING FIRST TWO WEEKS OF JUNE. TO BEST OF POSTS'S KNOWLEDGE, ALL CASES EXCEPT THOSE OF GURKOVA, KOZAK, AND POSSIBLY

LITVIN, INVOLVED FAMILIES.

4. POST HAS ALSO LEARNED THAT QUOTE SIX OR SEVEN
END QUOTE REFUSENIKS IN RIGA HAVE BEEN GIVEN PERMISSION
TO EMIGRATE SINCE EARLY APRIL, BUT HAS NOT YET LEARNED
WHICH CASES AMONG THE TWENTY-ONE KNOWN REFUSENIK CASES
THERE (REF B) WERE RESOLVED. SOURCE THOUGHT NO NEW
REFUSALS HAVE BEEN ISSUED IN RIGA. POST WILL
PROVIDE PARTICULARS AS SOON AS THEY BECOME AVAILABLE.

5. COMMENT: APART FROM THE EXIT VISAS GRANTED
REFUSENIKS IN RIGA, POST HAS NO EVIDENCE OF CONNECTION
BETWEEN OVIR ACTIVITY, VIS-A-VIS REFUSENIKS (QUA
REFUSENIKS), AND CSCE MEETING IN BELGRADE. WELL-INFORMED
SOURCE DISCOUNTED POSSIBILITY OF CONNECTION CITING
RELATIVELY LARGE NUMBER OF CASES OF PERMISSION GRANTED
LAST YEAR WHICH WERE NONETHELESS COUNTER-
BALANCED BY ISSUEANCE OF MANY NEW REFUSALS JUST AS
HAS OCCURRED DURING THE LAST TWO MONTHS. IN ANY
EVENT, NONE OF OLD REFUSENIKS, I.E. THOSE OF AT LEAST
TWO YEARS' SENIORITY HAS BENEFITTED BY RECENT OVIR
ACTIVITY. NET TOTAL OF LENINGRAD REFUSENIKS NOW STANDS
AT 100 SURNAMES. END COMMENT.RUECKERT

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